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Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 Expedited Procedure - Examination Group 2823

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Ebrahim Andideh

Application No.: 10/040,224

Filed: January 2, 2002

For: METHOD TO AVOID VIA  
POISONING IN DUAL  
DAMASCENE PROCESS

Commissioner for Patents  
Box AF  
Washington, D.C. 20231

FAX RECEIVED

DEC 18 2002

Examiner: Hsien Ming Lee

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Art Unit: 2823

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

on December 18, 2002 (Date)

Printed Name Clara Wallin

Signature

*Clara Wallin*

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed November 1, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2 and 14 and amend the claims in the manner indicated. A clean version of all pending claims after the amendment is shown on the following pages. A marked-up version of the amended claims is shown in Appendix A at the end of this response.

**BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP**

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13**PHONE NUMBER:****U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO.:**  
10/040,224**GROUP ART UNIT: 2823****ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:**  
42390P11353**TITLE: METHOD TO AVOID VIA POISONING IN DUAL  
DAMASCENE PROCESS****ACTION TAKEN: RESPONSE TO FINAL  
OFFICE ACTION DATED 11-01-2002**

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